

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 21115 210020Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 /069 W  
-----007354 210023Z /13

R 202330Z JUL 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5979  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L PARIS 21115

EO 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MNUC TECH PK US FR  
SUBJ: FRENCH VIEWS OF PAKISTAN POLITICS

1. THE QUAI DIRECTOR FOR ASIA, NOIVILLE, RECENTLY DISCUSSED AT SOME LENGTH FRENCH VIEWS OF THE CURRENT POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS IN PAKISTAN. HE FIRST ASKED ABOUT AMERICAN VIEWS AND EMBOFF DREW ON EMBASSY ISLAMABAD'S REPORTING. NOIVILLE EXPRESSED SCEPTICISM CONCERNING MANY US VIEWS AND SAID THAT THE QUAI WAS OF THE OPINION THAT THE MILITARY WOULD BE RELUCTANT TO HOLD ELECTIONS AS SCHEDULED, AND IF THEY DID SO, THEY WOULD CLEARLY FAVOR THE PNA. THE FRENCH CONSIDERED THAT THERE WERE VERY CLOSE TIES BETWEEN THE MILITARY AND SOME OF THE PNA, AND THE MILITARY WOULD TAKE ACTIVE MEASURES TO MAKE SURE THAT BHUTTO DID BADLY IN THE ELECTIONS. NOIVILLE MADE IT CLEAR THAT HE HAD A HIGHER OPINION OF BHUTTO THAN OF HIS PNA OPPONENTS, AND THAT THE GOF THOUGHT THAT AS MATTERS NOW STAND THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN PAKISTAN WAS DETERIORATING.

2. NOIVILLE DID NOT HINT AT US SUPPORT FOR THE PNA AND  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 21115 210020Z

THE GENERALS, BUT HE SEEMED TO THINK THAT THE MORE RELAXED US ATTITUDE REFLECTED US SATISFACTION AT THE WANING OF BHUTTO'S POWER. HE SEEMED UNIMPRESSED BY EMBOFF'S ASSERTIONS THAT DESPITE BHUTTO'S STRONG ATTACKS ON THE US, THE US WAS NOT "DETERMINED TO BRING HIM DOWN", BUT HOPED THAT THE COMING ELECTIONS WOULD BE TOTALLY FREE AND PRODUCE A GOVERNMENT BACKED BY POPULAR

SUPPORT.

3. IN SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATIONS WITH QUAI POLITICAL DIRECTOR LABOULAYE, THE AMBASSADOR REITERATED OUR NONINVOLVEMENT IN BHUTTO'S FALL. CONTRARY TO NOIVILLE, LABOULAYE SAID HE THOUGHT THE MILITARY WERE SERIOUS ABOUT HOLDING ELECTIONS. HE ALSO EXPRESSED CONCERN ABOUT THE EXTRME ISLAMIC LEGISLATION BEING IMPOSED AND SPECULATED THAT IT IS DESIGNED BOTH TO APPEAL TO CERTAIN OPPOSITION ELEMENTS AND, BY ITS HARSH PENALTIES, TO ESTABLISH PUBLIC ORDER. IN THE LONGER RUN, HOWEVER, THE FUNDAMENTALIST ISLAMIC CRIMINAL CODE COULD BE DIVISIVE SINCE SOME POLITICAL GROUPS ARE VIOLENTLY OPPOSED.  
HARTMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, POLITICAL SITUATION, ELECTIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 20-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977PARIS21115  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770258-0729  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PARIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770738/aaaabgnt.tel  
**Line Count:** 77  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** df1b0467-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 03-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1803723  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRENCH VIEWS OF PAKISTAN POLITICS  
**TAGS:** MNUC, TECH, PK, US, FR  
**To:** STATE ISLAMABAD  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/df1b0467-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009